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A DECLARATION OF MAJOR George Wither,

Prisoner in the Tower of

LONDON

With his Desires to Sir *John Robinson*, His Majesties Lieutenant: Writ on three fair Trenchers, with a Piece of Char-Coal, Worthy of the *Readers* serious Perusal.



London, Printed for *S. Jones*. 1652.

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A DECLARATION

Of Major

George Withers,

Prisoner in the Tower of LONDON;

Concerning the Kings most Excellent Majesty, the Presbyterian Party, and all publick and private Congregations whatsoever, &c.

WHereas the Rebels of King David constrained him to flight, and God was pleased to bring him home again, it is apparent, that those who at first had been very forward to drive Him out, at last, made haste

to

to joyn with those who had been instrumental to bring Him in: And He, with God in Mercy so complyd that Indempnity was granted, and not a man for that Rebellion suffered Death, it being Absalom that had contrived the Treason, deceiving the well-meaning People.

And although that Rebellion cost a Traitrous Childs Life; yet it cannot be denied, but by our unnatural War, a Royal Fathers Life was lost: And through Providence and Justice, after many years, the Heavens cryed aloud for this Royal Martyr, and some blood-shed that produced Traitors having their just Rewards. Yet by all true Subjects and Humane Reason His Gracious Majestie may be justly excused; Whom Natural Affection moved to shed, the Blood of such Barbarous Wretches, by whom His Royal Father received Martyrdom.

And since it pleased the Most High, to indue His Princely Heart from above with Mercies most infinite: so I wish that every one in his respective place and station may not onely have a high esteem, but for ever prize so great and signal a Mercie, as the happy Restoration of His Sacred Majestie: for indeed, no Jem so beautifies a Royal Diadem, as Mercie, when it is enamelled with Justice, and rivited with Prudence.

And as to this His Majesties happy Restoration, some question-ers, out of true Loyalty, and just Allegiance, contributed to His Majesties Accommodation; and some again, no doubt, onely to work their own Salvation out.

But this is a most assured Truth, that many who formerly

so truly convinced of their former Errors and the excellencie of His Majesties abundant Worth and Princely Endowments, that His Royal Person in them is safe; for in such who have received His Majesties Gracious Pardon, and unparalleld Clemencie, there will Love and Loyaltie much encrease and abound.

And as for my own particular, I must ingenuously Declare, That I who compulsively obeyed the late preceding Powers, doth now most willingly submit to His Majesties; promising all due Allegiance to His Sacred Majestie.

Further Declaring, That when I saw God on His Side appear, I was reclaimed, not by fear, but Conscience, yea not onely foreseeing, but also foretelling the Downfal and Ruine of the Usurpers then in Power.

And that His Majesties Happiness and Prosperitie may survive and flourish from my Soul I humbly implore and desire, That His Majestie may such means allay, not giving Ear to those who would withstand the Good and Prosperitie of His Majestie, the Peace of the Church, the welfare of these his Majesties Realms and Dominions, and the Work which God hath now in hand.

And whatever doth befall, I shall discharge my Conscience, hoping that will not wholly be rejected, which here in all Loyaltie and Faithfulnesse, I humbly supplicate: That Justice may be His Majesties Scepter, and Mercy His Crown: And that it may long flourish on His Princely Head, and the rest of the Royal Progeny, so long as the Sun and Moon shall endure.

And

Majestie may take all Opportunities to render him a Blessed Instrument, not onely to raign gloriously here, but also to Eternity hereafter: And that His Earthly Throne may appear more glorious, then the Throne of any Prince whatsoever since the Conquest.

And that His Name may be a Terror to all His Enemies, and shame and confusion to befall those who shall dare to disturb that true Peace and Tranquility of these Nations.

And for my own particular, I shall patiently submit to the Divine Will and Pleasure of the King of all Kings, and what His Vicegerent on Earth shall be pleased to do, not asking (whatsoere I seem to want,) ought more then His Majestie shall graciously be pleased to grant: Not doubting, but what is wanting here on Earth, will be supplied to me in Heaven.

Many such like Papers did he write, during his Confinement in the Press-yard at Newgate, some whereof being of very dangerous Consequence, and not fitting to be published. And since his being removed from thence to the Tower, Sir John Robinson His Majesties Lieutenant had Orders to detain him Close Prisoner, and to keep him from Pen, Ink and Paper; Which accordingly was done, but with as much Civility, as possible could be expected for any one in his Condition.

Yet

Yet notwithſtanding this ſomewhat began to exaſperate his troubled Spirits, and after ſome contemplation, was moved to write to the Lieutenant with a piece of Charcoal, on three fair Trenchers, Deſiring what favour poſsibly could might be allowed him; and that as he was antient, ſome Liberty might be extended towards him, &c.

FINIS.